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Cyrus Kar, a San Jose State University alumnus and an independent filmmaker who went to Iraq to shoot a documentary on the Persian king Cyrus the Great, hired a taxi after a long, searing day. The next thing he knew he was arrested by U.S. troops and held in detention camps for more than a month before being cleared of any wrongdoing. This is his story.

From filmmaking to serving time

SJSU alumnus Cyrus Kar arrested on suspicion of being an insurgent

BY VAISHALI KIRPEKAR
Special to the Daily

Cyrus Kar, the prisoner in cell 174, sat in disbelief of the absurdity of his life as each of the 52 rising suns came up and went by, sinking his hopes of a release.

CAPTIVE IN IRAQ

Kar's taxi journey that was supposed to take him from the central depot to the Shiite town of Balad, 75 miles north of Baghdad, began in the expanse of the desert and ended in the confines of an 8-by-8-foot cell.

Detained on the grounds of suspicion of being a terrorist combatant, Kar was taken to two military camps, including Abu Ghraib, for interrogation, before being detained for 53 days in solitary confinement at Camp Cropper, one of the U.S. military detention camps in Iraq.

According to a July 7 Washington Post story written by Josh White, Pentagon officials said American nationals made up a tiny fraction of the 10,000 detainees in custody, and an even smaller percentage of the more than 70,000 detainees who have been held in Iraq and Afghanistan since the wars began.

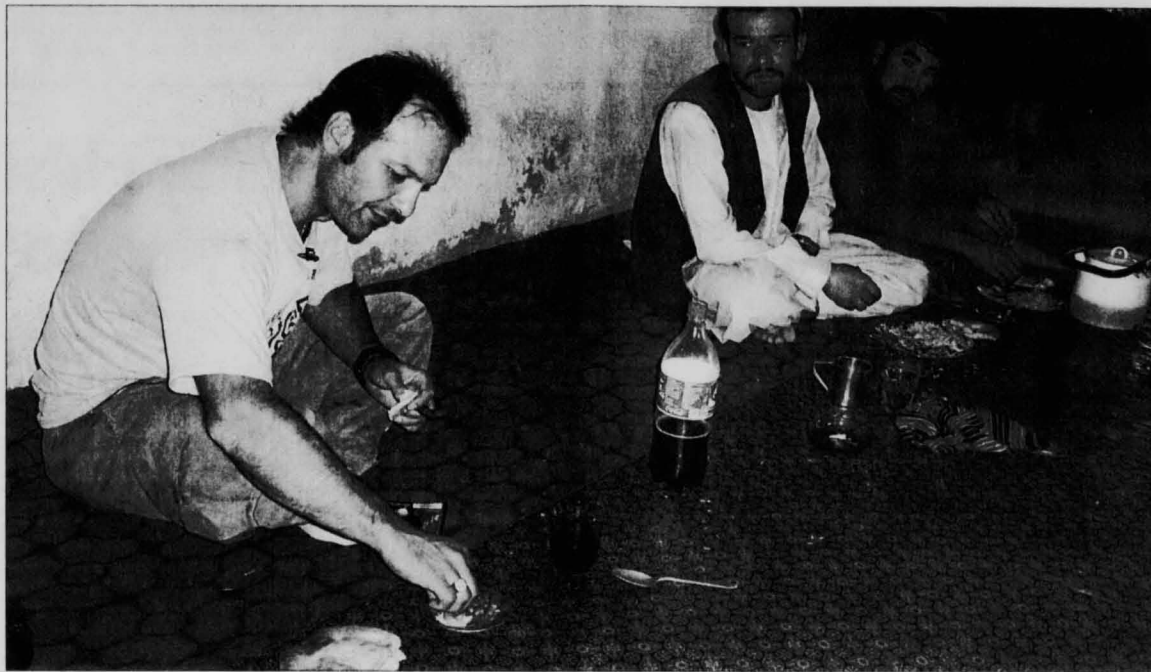
Although Kar was not tortured, he was denied access to his family and lawyer.

"He was kept in detention in spite of being cleared by the Federal Bureau of Investigation," said Ranjana Natarajan, a staff advocate for the American Civil Liberties Union.

Kar, who was released July 11, is continuing with his work, which he plans to finish in the next eight months.

Beheadings, war and elections in Iraq had kept him and his cameraman Farshid Faraji away from visiting the country, Kar said.

Most of the documentary was finished in Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Iran in 2001, but since Cyrus the Great's story takes place in Babylonia, Kar said he wanted to go to Al-Hilla in Iraq, which used to be ancient Babylonia. Babylonia is the ancient Mesopotamian kingdom, also known as one of the Seven



Cyrus Kar tasting the only vegetarian dish in an Afghani restaurant in Balkh, Afghanistan.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CYRUS KAR

Wonders of the World.

"Someone had to champion Cyrus the Great to do justice to Iran, which has always taken the rap," said 44-year-old Kar in a phone interview, referring to the 1979 hostage crisis and the depiction of Persia as Greece's whipping child in all the documentary films that he saw on PBS or the Discovery and History channels.

"It was now or never," he said. With this same passion, the 1990 graduate in marketing and economics watches Spartan sporting events, which he never missed when he worked in the Silicon Valley for 15 years before moving to Los Angeles.

It was in the Silicon Valley after being laid-off, when the company he worked for got bought, that Kar started reading about Persian history.

"There are more films made on Alexander, Caesar, Napoleon and others," he said.

History professor and

department Chair Jonathan Roth agreed and wrote in an e-mail,

"Kar's film about Cyrus the Great would be important since the Persian king's name should be as familiar as Alexander or Augustus Caesar — indeed it used to be."

Kar's documentary plans to reconstruct the culture of the

see KAR, page 3



Cyrus Kar, left, takes a break with Farshid Faraji, his cameraman, near the Iran-Iraq border in 2004.

A history of Cyrus the Great

BY FARIDEH DADA
Daily Staff Writer

San Jose State University alumnus Cyrus Kar had ample reason to document the life of his namesake.

About three thousand years ago, Cyrus the Great (Kourosh-e Kabir), the first Achaemenid emperor, ruled what is now Iran as a humanitarian. He founded and ruled ancient Persia.

Cyrus was a great leader, generous and compassionate. His policy was to bring peace. He is well-known for his humanitarian measures like freeing 40,000 Jews by allowing them to leave Babylon and return to Palestine.

Babylon was the chief city of ancient Mesopotamia. Now it is in contempo-

rary Iraq, about 70 miles south of Baghdad.

Cyrus' manifesto stressed people's rights — to choose their religion, to have personal property, to freely enter and exit the homeland — and needs to ensure the renovation of destroyed houses, to make people satisfied and happy, and to respect various traditions and customs.

Some experts consider the Charter of Freedom of Humankind issued by Cyrus the Great superior to the Human Rights Manifesto issued by the French revolutionaries in their first national assembly.

According to Iran Chamber Society, the Charter of Freedom of Cyrus appears more valuable considering its age, explicitness and rejection of the superstitions of the ancient world than the Human Rights Manifesto of the French National Assembly and the Charter approved by the United Nations.

An excerpt of Cyrus' mani-

see GREAT, page 3

Staff living next door to undergrads in Village

Faculty building houses grad students

BY CHRISTINE BARKER
Daily Staff Writer

The sound of false fire alarms is just one distraction that echoes through the courtyards of Campus Village, said Seth Wollman, a graduate student who lives in Building A of the new complex.

Other residents of Campus Village's Building A, which houses staff and faculty members, agree that living in close quarters with undergraduates in the freshman suites and Building B can be "interesting."

"We in Building A tend to use the front door rather than simply jumping out the ground-floor windows," said Mitch Berman, director of the Center for Literary Arts at SJSU and a resident of Building A.

"We tend to sleep when we're tired. Students tend to stay up when they're tired."

Martin Castillo, associate director of housing, said there are four graduate students living in Building A of Campus Village, along with the staff and faculty. The building is currently 36 percent occupied, he said.

"These four graduate students are older students who did not fit into the more traditional-aged students living in our other buildings," Castillo said.

"They wanted the older, more quiet residential community that would allow them to better focus on their academics."

By more traditional-aged, Castillo means the younger residents of Campus Village.

Berman said the staff and faculty housing is quieter.

"Life is more communal for the residents of the other buildings; they hang out in large and small groups in the plaza, on the lawns, near the fountains," Berman said. "We tend to either go home or go off campus when we're done with work."

The undergraduate residents know how to start trouble, like throwing up in the halls or destroying elevators, Wollman said.

Berman said older graduate students would want to live in Building A "so they could get some peace and quiet. I'd want to live here if I was a grad student."

"Building A allows faculty and staff to live within walking distance of their work," Castillo said. "Given the high price of gas and the commuter traffic, this becomes a huge perk."

Berman likes that he feels safe living at Campus Village.

"Safety — you don't walk by the Salvation Army or 15 halfway houses to walk to class," Berman said. "You leave your apartment at any time of night or day, and the worst thing that could happen would be that some moronic skateboarder would run you down — a far cry from the dangers of much of the city."

As for the apartments themselves, "(They) are nice, and they are kept, as another local landlord is fond of saying about their own apartments, immaculate," Berman said. "It's a little like living on Main Street of Disneyland that way."

According to the Campus Village Web site, there are four different floor plans, ranging from single-room occupancy to a two-

see VILLAGE, page 3

TODAY IN PRINT — PART ONE

"The Arrest"

TOMORROW IN PRINT — PART TWO

"The Ordeal"

FRIDAY ONLINE — PART THREE

"The Release"

World peace day to culminate in jazz concert and poetry contest

BY FARIDEH DADA
Daily Staff Writer

Eddie Gale, San Jose's self-described Ambassador of Jazz, and his "inner peace orchestra" will perform their annual concerts for world peace, "Music for Your Quiet Time and Inner Peace," this Saturday at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Joint Library.

The whole purpose of this event is "to bring to the attention of our community the importance of the arts, and inner peace," Gale said. "People can find inner peace, which leads to world peace through family participation and attending peace programs."

Gale said that if people learn, realize and practice inner peace within their own families, lives and surroundings, world peace

will be easier to achieve.

The International Day of Peace, celebrated on Sept. 21, was first marked in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly as a day of nonviolence and cease-fire.

It has been nine years that Gale, on this occasion, has been involved with this annual program, and it is the second year that the program is being performed at the King Library, Gale said.

The Peace Poetry Contest is another component of the program. Jeff Paul, one of the organizers of the event, said that the contest is among third-grade through college students.

"Eighty entries in all categories have been submitted. At least eight entries are from SJSU," Paul said.

"Poems will be judged on their creativity, poetic style, clarity and relativity to the subject," said Paul who is also the Cultural Heritage Center librarian.

Debbie Erwin, one of the co-ordinators of the Peace Poetry Contest, said, "Such an event will help spread the word about world peace to get young people thinking about that as a concept."

Erwin, who is also the youth services coordinator for the San Jose public library, said it has been very enlightening to hear what young people are thinking about what is going on in the world.

"It is nice to be able to think about how that happens and be reminded that, that is not always the case. People of different cultures don't always live in harmony in other parts of the world," she said.

"We are hoping that we can get this community and especially the university to become a peace zone," Gale said.

Gale said that since we are living in the 21st century, there are new ways to learn and teach.

"You learn by living," he said. Now that people from all over the world are in this university, more open-mindedness is needed, Gale said. It is up to the professors to open up to the young people and get some of their ideas and turn them into realities.

"We cannot be closed-hearted or closed-minded," Gale said. "How to be peaceful in our life," should be included in the educational system, Gale said.

For this event Gale has chosen a multi-cultural group of music players. The band has

10 members including Chinese Americans, Indian Americans, Caucasians and blacks who play both old and new musical pieces.

Prince LaSha, a saxophonist, and Diem Joans, a local poet, are special guests to the event.

Inviting people to attend the event, Paul said, "With all the trouble in the world today, with the war going on, with conflicts through out, peace is something that everybody should think about, peace is achievable."

It is expected that 300 people attend the program, Paul said.

The International Day of Peace "is meant to be a day of global cease-fire, when all countries and all people stop all hostilities for the entire day," Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary-General said.

PINGUE AND THE BRAIN

The art of selling permeates all aspects of communication

Most people think that you need to be selling a product in order to be a salesperson. But they're wrong.

My friend Tony always tells me, "You sell yourself every day to everybody."

What does that mean? It means that in everything I do and in everything you do, something is being sold. (Just as I am trying to sell this column to you.)

From an early age we all learn to sell. Children are a perfect example of selling. We all have that little sister, brother, cousin, nephew, niece or child that will ask for something that we don't want to give. And what happens when that child hears the answer is "No"? Whining, tantrums, crying, that is their sales pitch. Most children, and people for that matter, will never take "no" for an answer.

What I wear is a sales pitch. What I put on in the morning communicates to whoever sees it what I am doing, who I am, and where I am going. Appearance, or attraction, may be the No. 1 sell. When I want to meet people, I usually drift toward those who have a good appearance. It sounds superficial, but think about it. When you first meet someone it's because of

their appearance.

I'm not a superficial person, and those who know me can vouch for that, but no one really wants to be around anyone who looks dirty, messy or unclean. It does take more than appearance to sell me and that is where personality, thought and interaction come in.

Selling helps your communication skills and relationships in life. If you don't sell yourself, how will you ever keep a relationship with anyone? When you communicate with the person you're dating, or significant other, you are selling that you are a good person and worth the time for a relationship.

When dating leads to a relationship I continue to sell myself. Arguing about where to eat, where to go, or complaining about when we will see each other again, is selling.

What happens to that relationship when the selling stops? Well, like with many products, I get angry when it doesn't work, cry when it breaks and wait till a new and better product comes along.

When I look for internships or jobs my resume is

my sales pitch and the interview is my opportunity to sell my product, or myself. The thoughts going through my "customers" mind are, "Why should I buy this product?" (Because I am being bought with their salary.) And what's going through my mind is, "I will get this job after it offers everything I want."

To be a salesperson, I need to be in a positive state of mind. If I think something should happen, I will put all my time and effort to make it work, and it will happen.

Tony tells me, "Selling is nothing more than a transference of feelings." Meaning when you debate with your professor about extending a deadline, friends about religion, even with your parents about moving out, it's nothing more than telling a person how you feel.

Last Tuesday I tried to "sell" my parents about moving out to San Jose. Let me say that trying to sell that idea to Filipino parents is an uphill battle. The reasons they gave me to not move out outweighed my reasons of the latter. When my selling failed, I

was closed.

To close someone means that you sold that person on your product or idea. Some people may have heard the term "Always be closing." It's most popular from the 1992 film "Glengarry Glen Ross," a movie about competing real estate salesmen. "Always be closing," or ABC, is the motto for salespeople. It means that you always need to be in the state of mind that you are going to sell your idea. Never take no for an answer.

Selling yourself never ends, but not everyone is a good salesperson.

What do you need to be a good salesperson? You need honesty, integrity, a belief in your product, good communication skills, good listening and an active care for your customer. Selling isn't just about pitching ideas and overcoming objections, but it's also about educating others and helping them.

Oh, Tony is a car salesman at Fremont Auto West Dodge Chrysler. Did you expect anything less?

Yvonne Pingue is a Spartan Daily production editor. "Pingue and the Brain" appears every other Wednesday.



YVONNE PINGUE

Write letters to the editor and submit Sparta Guide information online. Visit our Web site at www.thespartandaily.com. You may also submit information in writing to DBH 209.

SPARTAN SOLUTIONS

Instructors are last hope for students trying to drop class

It is a painful experience for me to drop classes this semester. I tried to drop a class via my.sjsu.edu on Sept. 8 several times. I failed dropping because the system message showed, "It is beyond the last date to drop classes." At that time, I did not know the deadline was extended to Sept. 13. I thought it meant I missed the original deadline, which was Sept. 6. Therefore, I gave up and prepared for late dropping. I just heard about the deadline today, but it seems that I missed the extended deadline. What should I do now?

Yan Li

Yan, Linda Florez, an adviser with Academic Services, said the university is looking for cases like yours. You may be eligible to drop because of an "administrative error." The way to do it is to print out the late-drop form at http://acadsvcs.sjsu.edu/forms/late_drop.pdf and check the "administrative error" box. Be sure to write a statement explaining that the system wouldn't let you drop the class even though you tried it before the extended deadline. If you drop off the form at Florez's office in the Student Services Center, Yan, Florez said she will submit it to the committee that approves or rejects all late drops.

Other students who have experienced the same problems can also submit the late-drop petition, along with a personal statement explaining why they need to drop a class late, to Academic Services.

Other reasons for dropping a class late, which

will need extra documentation listed on the petition form, include military service, a death in the family, divorce, employment issues, a natural disaster, personal issues and health issues.

"Some students try to drop because they're not making the grade," Florez said, "but they wouldn't get it."

Students who need to drop the class have one other option - an instructor drop - but the window for that opportunity may already be up. If an instructor has not turned in his or her roster sheet, he or she can cross off a student from the list and drop the student without filing any paperwork.

However, Florez warned that this option is usually only available for a few days after the drop deadline, which was Sept. 13.



JOHN MYERS

GET AN ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION! Got an SJSU-related problem or question? Want someone else to

help you? Well, worry no longer. In his new column, "Spartan Solutions," the Spartan Daily's own Executive Editor John Myers will do his best to answer questions submitted by students in each column or online. Just go to www.thespartandaily.com and click on letters to submit your problem or question. Make sure to include your name, year, major and contact information.

John Myers is the Spartan Daily executive editor. "Spartan Solutions" appears every other Wednesday in print and occasionally online.

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon three working days before the desired publication date. Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.

TODAY

School of Art and Design

There will be an exhibition of student art from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art building and Industrial Studies building. For more information, contact the gallery office at 924-4330.

Career Center

Resume Critique Drop-in will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Career Center. For more information, contact Marisa Staker at 924-6171.

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry

Mass will be held at 12:10 p.m. in the SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry Chapel. For more information, contact Fr. Jose Rubio at 938-1610.

Vietnamese Student Association

A meeting will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Pacifica room of the Student Union. For more information, contact Chinh Vu at 821-7444.

Career Center

A job and internship search program will be held from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. and from 5 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. at the Career Center. For more information, contact Marisa Staker at 924-6171.

The Music Department

Pianist Abi Romero Ramirez will be performing in room 150 of the Music building. For more information, call 924-4649.

Socrates Cafe

There will be a discussion on whether honesty is really the best policy from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Pacifica room of the Student Union.

Judicial Affairs

There will be a seminar on how to write an academic paper from noon to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Ohlone room of the Student Union.

THURSDAY

School of Art and Design

There will be an exhibition of student art from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Art building and Industrial Studies building. For more information, contact the gallery office at 924-4330.

Career Center

Resume Critique Drop-in will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Career Center. For more information, contact Marisa Staker at 924-6171.

Judicial Affairs

There will be a seminar on how to use the academic resources on campus from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Art Quad between the Student Union and the Art building.

Judicial Affairs

An "Ethics Bowl Exhibition Match" will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Union Amphitheater.

SJSU Study Abroad Office

There will be an information session held at 1 p.m. in the Pacheco room of the Student Union. For more information, e-mail study.abroad@sjsu.edu.

SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry

The Alpha Omega Student Fellowship will hold a meeting at 8 p.m. in the SJSU Catholic Campus Ministry Chapel. For more information, contact Kay Polintan at 938-1610.

Asian Baptist Student Koinonia

There will be a Bible study at 7 p.m. in the Guadalupe room of the Student Union. For more information, contact Diane Kim at 499-7153.

The Listening Hour

There will be a classical music performance and conversation from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in room 150 of the Music building. For more information, contact 924-4649.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Censorship tarnishes newspaper's image

In response to Liz Nguyen's final "Wasted Days and Wasted Nights."

I have read Nguyen's editorials since they began. She is hands down the best writer I have read in my last two years at SJSU in an otherwise mediocre publication. I always looked forward to reading her honest, open and insightful articles about a variety of important topics. Her style may have been a little raw, but it was never without a purpose, and it was always interesting and entertaining.

Her censorship by a university newspaper is a sad

and scary sign of the times, where people are not allowed to express their honest opinions for fear of rocking the boat. Nguyen's departure is a big loss for the Spartan Daily and for SJSU, and I for one will no longer be reading the newspaper until she is allowed to return and to express her opinions without restriction.

David Lee,
graduate,
biology

THE SALTY

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PETER CLARK

EMMANUEL LOPEZ

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ELIZABETH NGUYEN

AND

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AND

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AND

SHANNON BARRY

CHRISTINE GLARROW

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PRISCILLA RODRIGUES

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Only letters between 200 to 400 words will be considered for publication.

Submissions become property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.

Submissions may be placed in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3237, e-mail at spartandaily@casa.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.

Editorials are written by and are the consensus of the Spartan Daily editors, not the staff.

Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass

Film festival to showcase alternate aspects of culture

BY ELIZABETH PERRY
Daily Staff Writer

Many hip-hop fans will unite on Friday and Saturday to explore the deeper sides of hip-hop culture. "Ghetto Fabulous — The B-sides of Hip-Hop" is a two-day film festival presented by Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (MACLA) and co-produced by Universal Grammar.

The festival will be shown at 510 S. First Street.

MACLA is a contemporary arts space where Latino artists create and showcase new work in the visual, literary and performance arts to help define, interpret and transform society, according to the MACLA press release.

The film festival takes a spin on exploring the "b-sides" of hip-hop through film, performance, graffiti art and clothing.

It will also take a look at the growing alternative culture within hip-hop, such as women and gay artists, according to the press release.

"How I define hip-hop is that it is a contemporary style, a sensibility, the politics, art and culture revolves around freedom," said Fred Salas, the film festival's organizer.

"There is a lot of mainstream hip-hop and we're going to explore the b-side, in other words, the other side of hip-hop — the alternative culture," Salas said.

For example, graffiti is a main part of hip-hop cul-

ture, said Salas, but it doesn't get as much attention as some of the mainstream culture, like break dancing or rapping.

"We want to recognize the art of graffiti at our event through the film 'Bomb the System,'" Salas said.

"Mixtress X," which illustrates women's role in hip-hop will also be shown at the film festival. Salas said he wants to make other women aware that they can be involved in the hip-hop culture as it is not a culture just for men.

"Women are not traditionally associated with the hip-hop culture," Salas said. "In the film 'Mixtress X,' it highlights how a woman makes it in a male-dominated field."

There aren't too many women disc jockeys in the hip-hop scene, Salas said.

"When people see a woman DJ, people are hesitant to get on the dance floor so women DJs need to prove themselves," Salas said. "We want women to be able to express their art through hip-hop."



PHOTO COURTESY OF PALM PICTURES

Lazaro, played by Blake Lethem, spray paints a wall in the film "Bomb the System." The movie will be featured at "Ghetto Fabulous — The B-sides of Hip-Hop" film festival held downtown.

A film called "Hip Hop Homos," featuring Latino rapper Deadlee, will explore the side of being gay in the hip-hop culture, Salas said.

The film is about an openly gay artist in the hip-hop world, Deadlee said.

"I hope that the film is another thing that kids can look up to if they are young and gay," Deadlee said. "We are fighting against the homophobic rap scene."

"Ghetto Fabulous," the feature film at the film festival, is a documentary about Oakland's Falcon Boys who transform old Ford Falcon cars into works of art.

"It is an interesting film because it's not about hip-hop break-dancers or anything like that. It's about these guys refurbishing the Ford Falcon automobiles," Salas said. "The film explores the depth, sadness, poverty and the music and hip-hop culture keeps them feeling alive."

The MACLA film festival will show different sides of hip-hop culture that are not usually a part of the mainstream view of hip-hop, Salas said.

"It's our responsibility to present their voices," said Tommy Aguilar, a representative of Universal Grammar film studios and MACLA for the film festival.

"When we put this film festival together, we wanted to challenge the audience so we put a lot of stuff out there."

The message and material in the films is what is important in the film festival, Aguilar said.

"We focused solely on the content and dialogue of each film," Aguilar said. "We were wide open about what we wanted to present which is why I think we have such a good selection of films."

NEWS

KAR - Taxi contained timers often used in explosive devices

continued from page 1

ancient Persians, which became virtually extinct after the Muslim invasion of A.D. 640, he said.

He went to Iraq, where he finished shooting on the Tigris River that flows through ancient Babylonia and the ancient cities of Erbil, Dahuk and, before proceeding to Al-Hilla.

Equipped with permit docu-

ments from the Coalition Provisional Authority, the Ministry of Culture and Heritage and the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage in Baghdad, Kar said he was used to getting pulled over at various checkpoints, but he never felt this could threaten his freedom.

However, on May 17, when his taxi was stopped at a police checkpoint, and its trunk popped open, Kar's journey came to a grinding

halt.

Police officials found washing machine timers that are commonly used by insurgents in improvised explosive devices, Kar said.

He and his cameraman, Farshid Faraji, were taken into custody at a detention camp in Tikrit at around 6 p.m. by U.S. military personnel.

"I kept telling them I am a U.S. citizen and know nothing about the timers," said Kar, who was put in an open cage.

GREAT - King Cyrus presided over ancient civilization

continued from page 1

fest, released by Iran Chamber Society is as follows:

"I announce that I will respect the traditions, customs and religions of the nations of my empire and never let any of my governors and subordinates look down on or insult them until I am alive.

"From now on, till Ahura Mazda grants me the kingdom favor, I will impose my monarchy on no nation. Each is free to accept it, and if any one of them rejects it, I never resolve on war to reign.

"Until I am the king of Iran, Babylon, and the nations of the four directions, I never let anyone

oppress any others, and if it occurs, I will take his or her right back and penalize the oppressor.

"And until I am the monarch, I will never let anyone take possession of movable and landed properties of the others by force or without compensation. Until I am alive, I prevent unpaid, forced labor.

"Today, I announce that everyone is free to choose a religion. People are free to live in all regions and take up a job provided that they never violate others' rights."

Cyrus himself had plenty of motivation to conquer. Legend has it that his grandfather was Astyages, the last king of Medes, who was so cruel that he forced his minister to slaughter, cook and eat

his own son.

That same legend says that Astyages so feared that his grandson Cyrus would overthrow him that he ordered the grandson's death. Cyrus escaped and later overthrew Astyages, forming the Persian Empire.

Today, many Iranians who choose to name their babies Cyrus show the increasing interest and love of Iranians for their heritage and it proves that the Islamic regime of Iran has not been able to reduce this love.

The name of Cyrus the Great, along with other real and imaginary heroes and heroines, have always revived honor and pride among Iranians.

College of Social Work splits into school, departments

Change was effective at the beginning of the semester

Daily Staff Report

The College of Social Work is officially no longer a college at San Jose State University, according to a press release from the Provost's Office.

The social work program, which offers both a bachelor's and master's degree, is now the school of social work within the College of Applied Sciences and Arts, Provost Carmen Sigler wrote in the press release made available Tuesday.

The urban planning department has moved to the College of Social Sciences, where the African American studies, Mexican American studies and American studies departments will be moving.

According to the press release, these changes were effective as of this semester, which began Aug. 24.

Sigler wrote that the faculty and staff member positions, as well as the degree programs being offered, will not be changed.

VILLAGE - Some faculty glad to have own building

continued from page 1

bedroom and two-bath apartment.

"The rent includes all utilities, basic cable, phone and Internet service," Castillo said.

Since a majority of Building A is still uninhabited, housing services has created an overnight program for university guests to stay for \$75 per night, Castillo said.

"Once the occupancy grows, we will shrink the program and eventually dissolve it," Castillo said.

Aside from the occasional run-in with undergraduate students, life in Building A for staff and fac-

ulty is rather normal.

"An undergrad girl flirted with my 6-year-old son, which he greatly enjoyed," Berman said. "Of course, I live in proximity with undergrads every day in my classes."

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Spartan volleyball team poised to begin conference play

BY CHEETO BARRERA
Daily Staff Writer

With the newly renovated Spartan Gym open, the San Jose State University volleyball team will host its first home game at 7 p.m. Thursday against the

VOLLEYBALL NOTEBOOK

University of Idaho.

Members of the team said that with the new look of the gym and the end of a long stretch of road games, they could end their current four-match losing streak when they open conference play.

"I am thrilled, I'm really thrilled to be playing in there," said junior middle blocker Dyana Thompson, who is second on the team in total blocks with 28. "I've been playing in there since I was a freshman and it was a sauna — very prison like. But the new gym looks amazing."

Sophomore outside hitter Nia Freeman said the new gym was great and being in front of a home crowd will add a new intensity to the squad.

"I'm really excited to play in the new gym. It will be a good game,"

Freeman said. "The new gym will give us a new atmosphere that will be great."

The Spartans were supposed to play their first game against the University of San Francisco on Sept. 6, but because of the renovations, the game was moved to San Francisco.

The team held practice in the gym Tuesday evening and again tonight so that it can get used to the new look and feel of the court, said head coach Craig Choate.

"We've been on the road forever, at least that's what it feels like," Choate said. "It will be nice to have someone rooting for us for a change, except for the few parents who come out."

Thompson agreed, adding that the new student base on campus could potentially bring a large crowd to root for them.

"This is the spark we needed," Thompson said. "It will be a lot better in front of a home crowd. With the new dorms and the Spartan Squad, there will be a lot of support at our games. That is the piece we've been missing."

The Spartans (5-6) will come home for two games — the first on Thursday against Idaho (7-4) and the second against Boise State

University (4-3) at 7 p.m. Saturday — after dropping all three of their games at last weekend's Titan Classic held at Cal State Fullerton.

Choate said the team lost two really poorly played matches — against UC Riverside and Fullerton — then a close one to Loyola Marymount University.

Choate said coming home usually sparks the team's intensity, but added that anything could happen.

"I have no idea what to expect out of them," Choate said. "I hope something good happens."

This will be the first time SJSU will face Idaho, which moved to the Western Athletic Conference from the Big West Conference.

Last year, the Spartans split the season series against Boise, with each team winning at home.

Choate said last year's results don't mean a lot since teams change so much from year to year.

"We will learn as we go," Choate said. "We don't play similar schedules during the preseason, so it is hard to judge. We have no idea what to expect until the first time through the conference."

Thompson said moving into conference play from tournaments will allow the team to focus on an individual match.

"It is just one game to focus on," Thompson said. "It is more exciting. We have one game — one match instead of three."



RYAN BALBUENA / DAILY STAFF

UC Davis setter Michelle Nelson, No. 1, and San Jose State University outside hitters Niki Clement, No. 2, and Jennifer Senfleben, No. 21, joust the ball during game four of a nonconference match on Aug. 26 at ARC Pavilion in Davis. The Spartans (5-6) hit .299 in their victory against the Aggies in four games. SJSU begins conference play Thursday against the University of Idaho at 7 p.m. in Spartan Gym.

Read the latest men's soccer news at
<http://www.thespartandaily.com>

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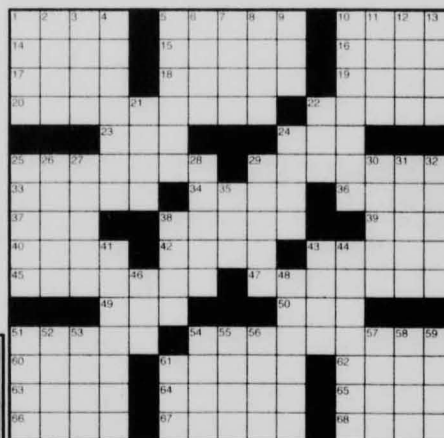
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